Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 035269

64
ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /061 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/B:MWCOTTER:BJD
APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS
ARA-LA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
---------- 045922
O 150112Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035269

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, BL
SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR CAPRILES' CALL ON
-- ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, FEBRUARY 14, 1975

SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR ROBERTO CAPRILES CALLED AT HIS REQUEST TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF GENERAL BILATERAL INTEREST. HE THANKED MR. ROGERS FOR THE U.S. STATEMENT ON THE CHARANA MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENTS OF BOLIVIA AND CHILE. CAPRILES THEN OUTLINED HIS VIEW OF BOLIVIA'S GEOPOLITICAL POSITION IN THE HEMISPHERE AND SPOKE OF THE NEED FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN ACHIEVING HIS COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS. HE ALSO ASKED FOR U.S. SUPPORT AND UNDERSTANDING IN BOLIVIA'S QUEST FOR A SOLUTION TO ITS LANDLOCKED STATUS AND RAISED THE SECRETARY'S PLANS TO TRAVEL TO L.A. END SUMMARY.

1. CAPRILES BEGAN BY THANKING ROGERS FOR HIS FEBRUARY 13 STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON THE CHARANA MEETING, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED IN LA PAZ. CAPRILES SAID HE APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUMMARIZE FOR ROGERS HIS VIEWS ON BOLIVIA'S ROLE IN THE HEMISPHERE. HE SAID
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 035269

BOLIVIA'S PHYSICAL SETTING BORDERING ON FIVE OTHER

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

COUNTRIES GIVES IT A UNIQUE GEOPOLITICAL POSITION, THE FULL SIGNIFICANCE OF WHICH IS LIMITED AT PRESENT BY ITS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL UNDERDEVELOPMENT. HE SAID THAT THE RESOURCE BASE NECESSARY FOR DEVELOPMENT EXISTS IN BOLIVIA AND THAT THE GOB HAS THE WILL TO MOVE FORWARD BUT WILL REQUIRE THE THE ASSISTANCE AND SYMPATHETIC ATTITUDE OF THE USG AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. HE ALSO REFERRED WITH CONSIDERABLE FRANKNESS TO THE NEED TO MODERNIZE BOLIVIA'S INSTITUTIONAL BUREAUCRACY.

2. CAPRILES THEN REFERRED TO BOLIVIA'S SINGLE MOST IMPORTANT CONCERN: ITS LANDLOCKED STATUS. HE SAID THAT THIS CONCERN IS A PRACTICAL RATHER THAN EMOTIONAL ONE AND REFLECTS THE FACT THAT THE COUNTRY IS COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON ITS NEIGHBORS FOR THE TRANSIT OF ALL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS. A REALISTIC SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM PROBABLY WILL NOT INVOLVE TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS BY ITS NEIGHBORS, SAID CAPRILES, ALTHOUGH MANY BOLIVIANS STILL SPEAK IN THOSE TERMS, BUT WILL INVOLVE PRACTICAL ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL FACTORS OF IMPORTANCE TO ALL THE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. ANY SOLUTION WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE, HE NOTED, AND WILL BE MANY YEARS IN THE MAKING. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ANY SOLUTION MUST BE WORKED OUT BY THE COUNTRIES DIRECTLY INVOLVED, BUT AGAIN, CITED THE NEED FOR SYMPATHETIC ASSISTANCE FROM OR A "CATALYTIC" INPUT BY OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S.

3. ROGERS ASSURED CAPRILES THAT THE U.S. RECOGNIZES BOLIVIA'S IMPORTANCE IN THE HEMISPHERE, AS EVIDENCED BY OUR LONG, AND TRADITIONALLY CLOSE, RELATIONSHIP AND THE FORTHCOMING NATURE OF U.S. POLICIES TOWARD BOLIVIA. HE ASSURED CAPRILES THAT THE USG FULLY UNDERSTANDS BOLIVIA'S ASPIRATIONS AND IS PREPARED TO PLAY A POSITIVE AND SUPPORTIVE ROLE AT THE RIGHT MOMENT. WHILE NOTING THAT WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE A LEADERSHIP ROLE, ROGERS PROMISED THAT THE U.S. WOULD BE AS IMAGINATIVE AND HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE. HE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A CONTINUING DIALOGUE WITH CAPRILES ON THIS AND ON OTHER SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. POSSIBLE RESORT TO THE WORLD BANK AND CIAP AS INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR FOCUS-
CONFIDENTIAL

ING ATTENTION ON BOLIVIA'S PROBLEM WERE DISCUSSED. CAPRILES EXPRESSED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN PURSUING THE PROSPECTS OF UTILIZING CIAP.

5. CAPRILES REFERRED TO THE SECRETARY'S PLANNED TRIP TO LATIN AMERICA AND ASKED WHETHER A STOPOVER IN LA PAZ WOULD BE POSSIBLE. ROGERS NOTED THAT THE SECRETARY ONLY PLANNED TO VISIT THOSE COUNTRIES TO WHOSE FOREIGN MINIS-

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

TERS HE HAD ALREADY MADE A PERSONAL COMMITMENT. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT SINCE IT WAS LIKELY THAT CHILE AND PERU WOULD BE VISITED, THE SECRETARY WOULD BE FULLY BRIEFED ON ALL PROBLEMS IN THE SUBREGION, INCLUDING BOLIVIA'S LAND-LOCKED STATUS. ROGERS SAID THAT WHILE A STOPOVER IN LA PAZ WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE ON THIS TRIP, HE HOPED THE SECRETARY WOULD VISIT LATIN AMERICA AGAIN IN THE FUTURE.

6. IN CLOSING, ROGERS REPEATED HIS DESIRE TO MAINTAIN A FRANK DIALOGUE WITH CAPRILES. HE RECALLED HIS LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH JULIO SANJINES, FORMER AMBASSADOR OF BOLIVIA TO THE U.S., AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT HIS RE-LATIONSHIP WITH CAPRILES WOULD BE AS CLOSE. INGERSOLL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE035269
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MWCOTTER:BJD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750055-0326
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750238/aaaabike.tel
Line Count: 128
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <15 DEC 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR CAPRILES' CALL ON -- ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, FEBRUARY 14, 1975
TAGS: PFOR, BL, US, (CAPRILES, ROBERTO), (ROGERS, WILLIAM D)
To: LA PAZ
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006